

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

21 June, 2023

Proposition No. P.2023/38

Committee for Education, Sport & Culture

EDUCATION LAW REVIEW

AMENDMENT

Proposed by: Deputy A Matthews

Seconded by: Deputy D de Lisle

To delete Proposition 19 (b) and redesignate 19 (c) as 19 (b) accordingly.

Rule 4(1) Information

- a) The proposition contributes to the States' objectives and policy plans by simplifying proposals pursuant to the Education Law review.
- b) Joint working or consultation has with the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture is unnecessary as the amendment is a simple removal of a proposition subsection to facilitate a separate debate and vote.
- c) The proposition has been submitted to His Majesty's Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.
- d) There are no financial implications associated with this amendment.

Explanatory Note

This amendment removes Proposition 19 (b) from the Education Law Review, presented as an amendment to enable a separate debate and vote on the specific provision.

Subsection 19 (b) seeks to direct the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture to enable fixed penalty fines to be issued for non-school attendance, to be enforced only following detailed proposals returning to the States for consideration.

In its accompanying letter the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture cites UK evidence and expresses doubt that fines have long-term impact on persistent non-attendance, but can act as a deterrent for parents taking their children out of school for a term time holiday.

Guernsey has specific issues with off-island transport links, and a culture of individual liberty that would object to penalties imposed by education authorities. The disbenefits outweigh any questionable expectation of gains in school attendance.